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MEMO TO: North Dakota Educators

FROM: Laurie Matzke, Assistant Superintendent
Division of Student Support & Innovation

DATE: April 28, 2016

RE: Important Updates

Please note the following four important updates:

- 1) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Regional Workshop Handouts
- 2) Small Rural School Achievement Program
- 3) North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) Contact
- 4) Estimated Federal Title Allocations

1) ESSA Regional Workshop Handouts

The NDDPI hosted ESSA Regional trainings in April 2016 to provide administrators, teachers, and school staff with an overview of the new federal law, a transition plan, and various other topics including updates to the consolidated application, program improvement, and state and federal initiatives. Training handouts are available at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/ESSA/Presentations/.

2) Small Rural School Achievement Program

Under ESEA, there is a program called the Small Rural School Achievement Program that is aimed at providing supplemental grants to small rural school districts. This grant flows directly from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to districts. Please note the following key information regarding this program:

- ✓ A handout was disseminated at the ESSA regional trainings providing more information regarding this program, including information regarding who to contact if you have questions. The handout can also be accessed at www.nd.gov/dpi/uploads/1398/REAP.pdf on our website.
- ✓ Eligible districts include those with an average daily attendance of less than 600, a locale code of 7 or 8, and those with a Title II, Part A allocation of less than \$60,000.
- ✓ The NDDPI has posted the chart that was sent to the USDE based on the eligibility criteria. The chart can be accessed at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/TitleVreap/ on our website. Eligible districts are those highlighted in green.
- ✓ Districts that received funds last year and are eligible again do not need to reapply.
- ✓ Eligible districts that need to apply on the USDE website should have received an email from the USDE this week providing additional details. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2016.

3) **NDDPI Contact**

The Division of Student Support & Innovation has assigned a contact person to each school district in the state. The list was recently revised to reflect new staff to the division and is available at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/ConApp/. If you have questions or need assistance in any area, please connect with your contact person.

4) **Estimated Federal Title Allocations**

On April 18, 2016, Jamie Mertz, Fiscal Management Director, released an email notification to school district personnel outlining the estimated Title I and Title II allocations for the 2016-2017 school year. The estimated federal Title program allocations have been calculated and posted on the NDDPI website. Please note that these are only estimated amounts and, generally, the final allocations vary some from these estimates.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this memorandum, please contact me at lmatzke@nd.gov or (701) 328-2284.